

silvery, the upper parts with a blue, the sides with a bronze, tinge; the spinous portion of the dorsal is pale purple, the soft portion, the anal, and the caudal yellowish; pectorals and ventrals pinkish, the cheeks and opercles being also washed with the same colour. Irides golden.

6. On a new Caucasian Goat (*Capra severtzowi*, sp. n.). By  
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[Received November 15, 1887.]

In the lately published memoir of Mr. Eug. Büchner, "Zur Geschichte der kaukasischen Ture"<sup>1</sup> we have a carefully prepared treatise upon the present state of our knowledge of *Capra caucasica* and *Capra cylindricornis* (*Ægoceros pallasii*), as well as of their distribution and synonymy. But it seems that I am more fortunate than Mr. Büchner in the solution of the question what is the *Capra caucasica* of Güldenstaedt, who very positively speaks on the "cornua" of this Goat as "retrorsum et extrorsum arcuata, apice denuo introrsum vergentia." During the last two years I have had an opportunity of receiving many skins, horns, and skulls of the Mountain-Goat from the northern Caucasus, and amongst them I have found at last the true *Capra caucasica* of Güldenstaedt. It is a Mountain-Goat inhabiting the region between Elbruz and Dykhtau, and only mentioned by Mr. Dinnik in his pamphlet on the Caucasian Mountain-Goat. I do not understand either how such an excellent naturalist could maintain that the Mountain-Goat from the central part of the northern Caucasus is the same as the Mountain-Goat from the western half of this region, nor his conclusion that the western Mountain-Goat is the true *Capra caucasica* of Güldenstaedt. In the western and eastern or central Mountain-Goat of the northern Caucasus we have two quite different animals—the central being the true *Capra caucasica* of Güldenstaedt, in many respects assimilating to *Æg. pallasii*; the western, I think, being a species new to science, but erroneously described by Mr. Dinnik and Mr. Büchner as *Capra caucasica*. For this western Caucasian Goat I propose the name *Capra severtzowi*, in honour of my friend Mr. Severtzow, to whom we are under great obligations for our knowledge of the different Wild Goats and Sheep.

The subjoined descriptions of the Caucasian Mountain-Goats may serve to distinguish these two very different animals.

#### CAPRA CAUCASICA, Güld.

This Goat is a very graceful, handsome, and powerful animal, a little smaller than *Capra severtzowi*, but with enormous black horns.

<sup>1</sup> Published in the Mém. Acad. Sc. St. Pétersbourg, sér. vii. t. xxxv. No. 8 (1887).

The curve of the horns is as follows (I speak of the horns of the full-grown male): from the head the horns rise upwards and outwards, then backwards and outwards, and finally downwards, with the tips curved inwards (*cornua . . . maxima, . . . retrorsum et extrorsum arcuata, apice denuo introrsum vergentia*), so that the tips approach one another very sensibly. The section of the horns taken near the base is quadrangular with rounded posterior corners. On the front surface of the basal half there are 8 or 9 small ribs, on the apical half about 10 more conspicuous nodules. The length along the anterior surface is from 30" to 32" 2"; the circumference at the base is from 11" to 12". The distance between the tips of the horns is only about 20". By all these characters of the horns *Capra caucasica* differs from *Capra severtzowi* and approaches to *C. cylindricornis* sive *Æg. pallasii*.

The incisors of the lower jaw are fine and slight in comparison with those of *Capra severtzowi*. The skull has a higher forehead, more broadly developed occipital and frontal regions, and is more solid. The beard, reddish-brown in colour, is short and broad, like that of *Capra cylindricornis*, and not like the beard of *Capra severtzowi*. The head is covered with a reddish-brown fur, darker in the front than at the sides. The general colour of the fur is yellowish-brown-grey, the colour of *Cervus elaphus*; but on the nape of the neck is a lighter spot; along the edge of the spine there is a dark stripe; the groins are light; the tail is covered with very long dark brown hairs. The extremities are dark, with a slightly developed light stripe on the posterior side of the fore feet, more visible on the posterior side of the hind feet. The fur on the belly is very dark, black-brown.

The distribution of *Capra caucasica* is very limited; it inhabits only the mountains between Elbruz and Dykh-tau, *i. e.* it is met with only at the sources of the Chegem, Baksan, and Malka. This region is central in its position, between the region of *C. cylindricornis* on the east and the region of *C. severtzowi* on the west.

#### CAPRA SEVERTZOWI, sp. n.

The *Capra caucasica* of Mr. Dinnik differs in such a great number of characters from the true *Capra caucasica* of Guld., that it undoubtedly must be distinguished as a separate species. It is a very powerful animal, with enormous black horns, as in *C. caucasica*, but their curve is regular and inclined in one plane. From the head the horns rise upwards and outwards, then backwards and outwards, and finally downwards. I have seen many beautiful horns of this species with the tips curved outwards, but this is not the rule, though the distance between their tips is always enormous compared with the horns of *Capra caucasica*: on the authority of Mr. Dinnik, this distance is nearly 3 feet in one skull of his collection, and I know a skull with the distance between the tips of the horns about 32". The section of the horns taken near the base is triangular, with rounded corners. On the front surface there are more or less conspicuous nodules.

The incisors of the lower jaw are thick and round. The skull, in comparison with the skull of *Capra caucasica*, has neither such a developed forehead nor such a broad occipital region.

The fur has the following peculiarities: the general colour is a brownish grey, with more expressed yellowish tinge than in *Capra caucasica*; the head is darker, a light spot on the nape of the neck is but a little developed; along the ridge of the spine a dark stripe. The anterior and posterior extremities are dark with a very observable light stripe on their posterior side. The fur on the belly is light brownish. The beard, brown in colour, is longer and narrower than in *Capra caucasica*; the tail, on the contrary, is shorter.

It seems to me that all the figures of horns on the plate accompanying Mr. Büchner's pamphlet (taf. 1) should be referred to *Capra severtzowi*.

The distribution of Severtzow's Goat is more extensive than that of *Capra caucasica*; this animal is met with throughout the whole of the alpine region of the western Caucasus, and, according to the observations of Mr. Dinnik, presents some marked distinctions in the specimens inhabiting its westernmost parts. "Their horns are comparatively short, thick, with a more decided outward turn at the base, and with large nodules on the anterior side. Their section taken near the base proved them to be quadrangular with rounded corners, rather than triangular. The circumference at the base of the horn as compared with the length measured along the anterior surface is equal to half or a little more. The colour of the fur of this Goat is also perceptibly lighter."

It is possible that this western Caucasian Mountain-Goat may form a third distinct species, or at least a variety of *Capra severtzowi*.

Both the described typical specimens of Goats (*Capra caucasica* and *Capra severtzowi*) are now preserved in the Zoological Museum of the University of Moscow.

## 7. Critical Notes on the Nomenclature of Indian Mammals.

By W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S., F.Z.S.

[Received November 9, 1887.]

### I. *On the Simia silenus and S. veter of Linnæus, and on the proper name of the Malabar Bearded Monkey.*

Ever since the time of Schreber the specific name *silenus* has been applied to a bearded species of *Macacus* peculiar to the Malabar coast. This Monkey is commonly known amongst European zoologists as the Wanderoo, and in many European works on natural history is said to inhabit Ceylon; but it was long since shown by various writers that the species is not Ceylonese, and that the Wanderoo of Ceylon is a *Semnopithecus*. The question I have endeavoured to solve is whether the bearded *Macacus* of Malabar is the *Simia silenus* of Linnæus.